

## 8th STB stays afloat during challenging training exercise

Story and Photos by  
**SGT. GAELN LOWERS**  
8th Theater Sustainment Command  
Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — “It’s a lot harder than it looks,” said Spc. Joseph Peck, personnel Soldier with the 8th Special Troops Battalion, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, as he heaved his body up over the side of the swimming pool and onto the wet cement at Richardson Pool, here.

“It was a challenge in the uniform alone, but when you add the extra weight of the weapon and the force of a 15-foot-high, high-dive jump, it adds a whole extra dimension of challenging,” Peck said.

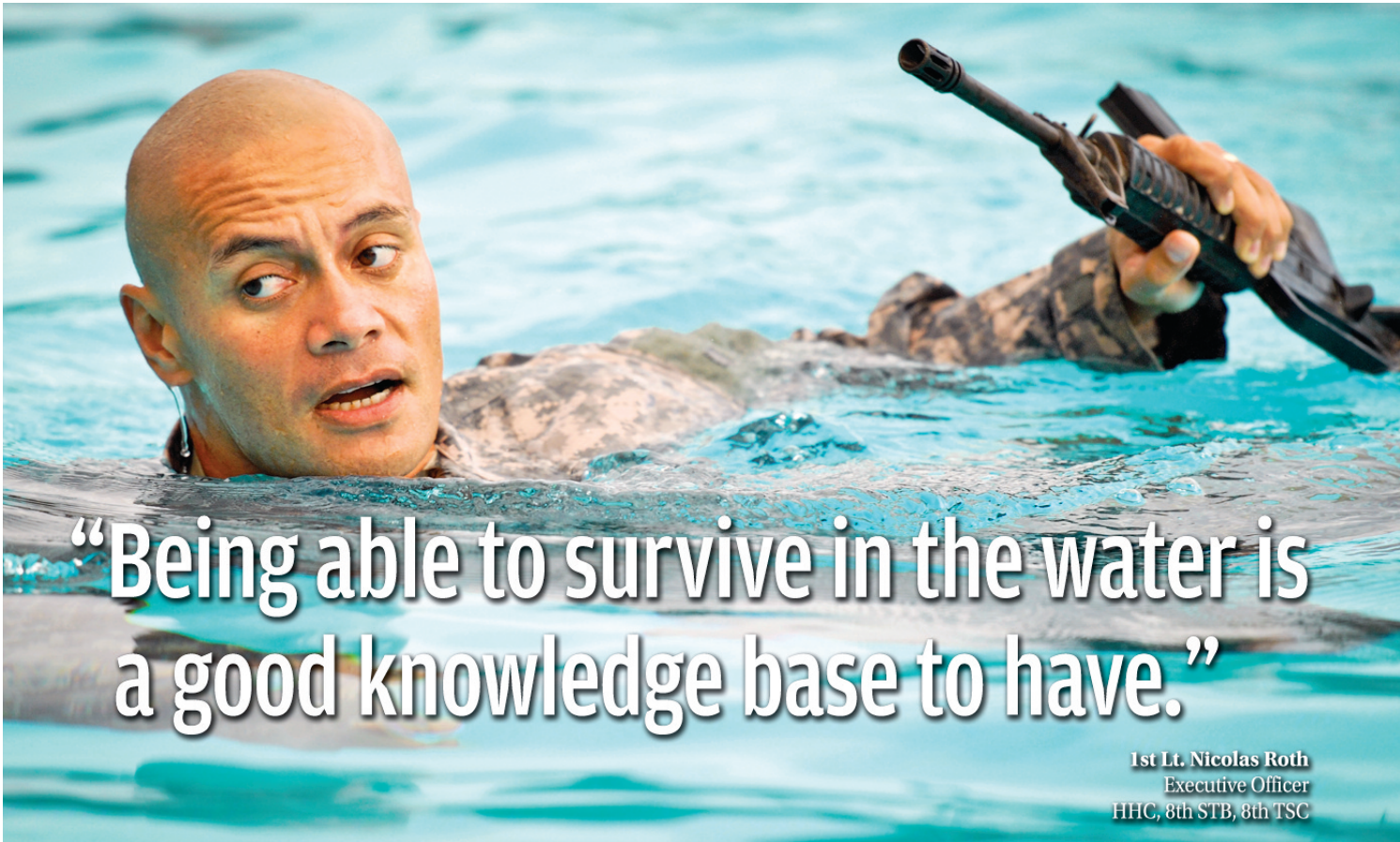
These were the sentiments of most of the Soldiers with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 8th STB, who attended mandatory drown-proofing training, June 22 and 29.

“(Drown-proofing training) teaches basic survival techniques on how to stay afloat,” said Sgt. Kyle Mangrum, tactical communications noncommissioned officer, 8th TSC, and lead instructor for the day.

As part of the exercise, Soldiers swam 50 meters, with and without a weapon; tread water for two-minutes-and-30-seconds, with and without a weapon; and jumped off the 15-foot tower, with and without a weapon, while wearing their full Army combat uniform and boots.

“Its purpose is to give people a better understanding on how things would be if they had to be in their uniform and fully submerged in the water,” Mangrum said, adding he really wanted to give everyone the mindset of, “Yes, I can tread water and swim when I have this uniform on.”

“We live on an island, so being able to survive in the water or even just having a knowledge of what to do while in the water, either while training or recreational, is a good knowledge base for any of our Soldiers to have,” said 1st Lt. Nicolas Roth, executive officer, HHC, 8th STB.



Command Sgt. Maj. Tose Tia, senior enlisted leader, HHC, 8th STB, 8th TSC, swims 50 meters carrying his weapon during his unit's annual drown-proofing training, held at Richardson Pool, here, June 22 and 29.



Soldiers with HHC, 8th STB, 8th TSC, step into the water during the unit’s annual drown-proofing training, held at Richardson Pool, June 22 and 29.

See **DROWN-PROOFING**, A-6

## ‘Wolfhounds’ train in urban warfare, strengthen leadership

Story and Photos by  
**SGT. ROBERT ENGLAND**  
2nd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs,  
25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Soldiers of Company B, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, “Wolfhounds,” 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, trained at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, June 24-27, marking the battalion’s first platoon-level situational training exercise, or STX.

The STX tested the platoon’s ability to assault a series of objectives in an urban environment in search of a high-value target based on simulated intelligence disseminated during the mission briefing.

“We’re transitioning to full-spectrum operations, so it’s nice that we’re able to work in an urban environment, which is a lot of what we’re currently seeing,” said 1st Lt. Joseph Orton, platoon leader, Co. B, 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT.

See **WOLFHOUSES**, A-5



Soldiers from Co. B, 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT, 25th ID, pull security in a Stryker fighting vehicle during a situational training exercise at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, June 25, marking the first platoon-level training the battalion has conducted this year.

## 3rd BCT welcomes new commander

Story and Photo by  
**STAFF SGT. AMBER ROBINSON**  
3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs, 25th Infantry Division

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Soldiers, leaders and families from the 25th Infantry Division and 3rd Brigade Combat Team gathered on Weyand Field, here, June 28, for a change of command ceremony to bid farewell to the 3rd BCT’s former leader and welcome a new commander.

Col. Richard Kim, outgoing commander of the 3rd BCT, “Bronco Brigade,” relinquished command to Col. Brian Eifler.

Kim had commanded the Bronco Brigade for two years, leading approximately 3,500 Soldiers through an intense train-up and throughout a very successful deployment to the eastern region of Afghanistan. He commanded troops in some of the most treacherous areas of Afghanistan, including the highly volatile Kunar province, home of the Pech River Valley.

Maj. Gen. Kurt Fuller, commander, 25th ID, offered gracious parting words for Kim.

“Under Kim’s leadership, during the last few years, the brigade’s accomplishments have been truly impressive,” said Fuller. “You were the right leader at the right time for the Bronco Brigade. Your expert leadership allowed 3rd BCT to continue its legacy of excellence and write another proud chapter in the history of the 25th Infantry Division.

“Thank you for a truly phenomenal effort,” Fuller said. Fuller also commended Kim for his efforts during the brigade’s recent deployment.

“The Soldiers of this brigade fought for more than a year in the

See **BRONCOS**, A-5

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Col. Douglas Mulbury reflects on his time as garrison commander.

### Veterans | A-4

VA launches new programs to help Army veterans.

### Dog Competition | B-1

Soldiers and their working dogs compete to see who will be named top dog.



### Battle Buddies | B-3

65th Engineers buddy up with Gold Star children.



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The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes articles from Army organizations, announcements from the general public about community events of interest to the military community, and letters and commentaries.

If you have newsworthy ideas or stories you'd like to write, coordinate with the managing editor at 656-3156, or e-mail editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

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Articles must be text or Word files with complete information, no abbreviations; accompanying photographs must be digital, high resolution, jpeg files with full captions and bylines.

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## 182 days since last fatal accident

Number represents fatal accidents as defined by Army Regulation 385-10, which is inclusive of all active component U.S. Army units and personnel. Current as of 07/05/12.

## BACK TO BASICS

# ‘Back to Basics’ is the future of the Army

**COMMAND SGT. MAJ. KEVIN THOMPSON**  
311th Signal Command,  
94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command

During my Army career, I've seen many changes. Uniforms have changed, and our strategic, operational and tactical concepts have evolved. Frankly, the entire way we do business in the Army has changed.

The phenomenal way in which our Soldiers have adapted to change illustrates their collective resiliency. However, a few things shouldn't change, like the basics of how we coach and mentor our Soldiers.

This is why our senior noncommissioned officers have to engage now. Our Army has been running at a high operational tempo for a long time — more than nine years — and some basic soldiering tasks and traditions have taken a backseat along the way.

Our Soldiers are spending much more time training and deploying than they have on what's been called "garrison leadership," which causes an imbalance. Garrison leadership is simply ensuring good order,



Thompson

discipline and leadership, as well as maintaining and enforcing proper military customs and courtesies, traditions, and wear and appearance of the military uniform. To do that, we need to get back to the basics.

Moving back to the basics is the future of the Army. We as leaders have to know what the standards are ourselves and be able to meet or surpass those standards.

Here at the 311th Signal Command (Theater), we recently started operation "Quick Look," one of several initiatives we've incorporated to improve garrison leadership proficiency. This consists of all master sergeants, sergeants major, command sergeants major, lieutenant colonels and those above to take an Army Physical Fitness Test and weigh-in with the commander and command sergeant major. This demonstrates that we, as leaders, know and meet the standards.

Our phenomenal training is paying big dividends, reflected most recently by Sgt. 1st Class Ty Patrick and Spc. Richard Wyce, the 311th 2012 NCO and Soldier of the Year, respectively, who both went on to win the Network Enterprise Technology Command Warrior Challenge, recently, and will represent all of NETCOM at the Forces Command level.

Additional initiatives include our newly established



Chap. (Col.) Mike Dugal (center), chaplain, USARPAC, says a prayer of consecration over Chap. (Lt. Col.) Scott Hammond (left), outgoing chaplain, 25th ID, and Chap. (Lt. Col.) Randy Kirby, incoming chaplain, 25th ID, during the change of stole ceremony, held at Soldier's Chapel, Schofield Barracks, June 26.

## ‘Tropic Lightning’ transfers spiritual leadership role

Story and Photo by  
**SGT. 1ST CLASS KRISHNA GAMBLE**  
25th Infantry Division Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Just as the mantle was passed from Elijah to Elisha as described in I and II Kings of the Bible, the change of stole ceremony held June 26 at Soldiers Chapel, here, marked the transition of spiritual leadership for the 25th Infantry Division as Chap. (Lt. Col.) Randy Kirby assumed the duties as Lightning Shepherd from Chap. (Lt. Col.) Scott Hammond.

The stole symbolizes God's authority, and the transfer of it represents the transfer of spiritual servitude and leadership. In ancient times, ministers accompanied Soldiers into battle, representing God and seeking his guidance, blessings and protection for the leaders and Soldiers. For military chaplains, that role has increased to include various types of training, counseling and outreach programs.

"'For God and country' is the motto of the chaplaincy, and it illustrates the key role chaplains play in providing spiritual comfort to Soldiers in need," said Maj. Gen. Kurt Fuller, commander, 25th ID.

"Our chaplains continue to nurture the living, care for our wounded and honor our dead, but their duties have expanded dramatically," Fuller said. "In every case, our chaplains and (unit ministry teams) have met the challenge and performed superbly," Fuller said.

Hammond, who has served as the 25th ID spiritual leader since January 2010, and his family, will continue their spiritual and military service in Vicenza, Italy.

"In John 13 (of the Bible), you read what has been the epitome of leadership for me,"

Hammond said. "We should wrap the stole around us and serve as Jesus served.

"Thank you for your friendship, your love and for the privilege of serving you," he said.

Kirby and his family return to the 25th ID after serving most recently as a unit chaplain in Washington, D.C. He pledged to keep Christ at the center of his ministry and keep things in perspective as "some things just don't matter."

"I desire to make myself available to you and be what you need me to be," Kirby said. "I will pray for the commanders in their daily decision, pray for every Soldier and family member daily, and pray for the unit ministry teams daily."

"There are four distinct characteristics that both (Hammond) and (Kirby) possess: brokenness, uncommon communion, servant leader as an identity, and a desire for quick, radical obedience to God's will," said Chap. (Col.) Mike Dugal, chaplain, U.S. Army-Pacific.

"It's my prayer that a double portion of the same spirit is given to Kirby," Fuller said. "I charge you to carry the torch that protects our Soldiers' right to religious freedom, to faithfully lead our division unit ministry teams and carry on the mandate of providing 'religious leadership for the Army ... courageous in spirit, compassionate in service.'"

Army chaplains are professionals specially trained to serve any spiritual need, regardless of religious affiliation, by offering pastoral care and supporting religious rights and needs. Military chaplains also advise their commanders on issues of religion, ethics, morale and morals, and liaise with local religious leaders.

Command Retirement Program, which recognizes all members of the command (civilian and military) who are retiring with an official ceremony. The first ceremony was conducted at Palm Circle when we retired six NCOs. This enabled Soldiers and leaders to see what right looked like.

Other programs being fine-tuned are the Junior Leader and Leader Development programs. We are empowering junior Soldiers to conduct Physical Readiness Training to standard, along with learning how to call cadence and direct formations.

As the Army continues to ramp down its deployment cycles and Soldiers spend more time at their home stations, the current generation of young leaders will continue to be exposed to time-honored traditions that will seem new to them. It's essential they understand that leading, coaching, training, mentoring and developing Soldiers is a full-contact sport.

Leadership is action, not position. The NCO Creed reinforces the notion that the accomplishment of the mission and the welfare of the Soldiers are the two fundamental tenets of being a NCO.

The NCO Creed also states, "All Soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership."

It's our job as leaders to provide that leadership.

## FTSTEPS in FAITH

# Laughter, prayer are the best defense in battle against stress

**CHAPLAIN (CAPT.) SAMUEL OLMOS**

North Community Deputy Chaplain, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

As a military community, we are constantly introduced to stressors. Permanent changes of station moves, deployments, redeployments, moving household goods, promotions and the whole Army Force Generation, or ARFORGEN cycle, can be nerve-racking.

Since 2006, the Army has been cycling through the reset, train/ready and available model in order to use total strength of the Army. This war model has been effective, but stressful on Soldiers and their families.

We all respond differently to stressful situations. There are so many fighters in the military; a common response is to push back even harder and fight through stressful times. For many others, however, pushing through a stressful situation is getting harder and harder.

The truth is that the complexity of stressors in the military eventually catches up to the Soldier and family members. When you add financial problems, marital issues or declining health to an already stressful ARFORGEN cycle, the stress factor increases exponentially, hence making the situation unbearable and sometimes hopeless.

Many will even argue that these stressors are the biggest detriment to the military family. It is not uncommon to hear Soldiers and family members alike blame the Army for their divorce or for their difficult predicament. But the fact remains that many families make it through these difficult times successfully.

What is the secret to their success? I believe two things make all the difference: laughter and prayer.

Successful Soldiers and families know how to laugh, and laughter is therapy for the soul. When we laugh, we shake off the heaviness in our spirit and reset ourselves.

Proverbs 17:22 says "a cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones." If you have not laughed for days or simply have no motivation to do so, I recommend you look to children to teach you how to laugh again.

Successful Soldiers and families also pray. I find that one of the most powerful ways of dealing with difficult, scary and stressful situations is by giving my concerns to a higher power. It saddens me when people tell me they have no one to turn to in hard times. Personally, it is this higher power that gives me the hope and strength to make it through life's difficulties.

One of the greatest and most loving things I can do for my family is to pray with them when life is difficult. I have seen stress turn into total peace through prayer. Check out the words of Christ in John 16:33: "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Laughter and prayer are simple, yet useful, tools in combatting the stressors of military life. Almost all of us have used these tools in the past. If you are stressed out and ready to quit, don't lose hope; instead, include laughter and prayer in your daily routine, and give God thanks when those burdens are lifted.



Olmos

# Voices of Ohana

It's summertime in Hawaii

What is your favorite outdoor activity?

Photos by 3rd Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs Office, 25th Infantry Division



"I like to box."  
**Pvt. John Aparicio**  
Trp. A, 3rd Sqdrn.,  
4th Cav. Regt.,  
3rd BCT, 25th ID



"I like to party!"  
**Spc. Asa Casenhiser**  
Co. A, 3rd BSTB,  
3rd BCT, 25th ID



"I like to go to the beach."  
**Maj. Glenn Kozelka**  
HHC, 3rd BCT,  
25th ID



"I like to play basketball."  
**Pvt. Arthur Outlaw**  
Trp. A, 3rd. Sqdrn.,  
4th Cav. Regt.,  
3rd BCT, 25th ID



"I like to fish."  
**Master Sgt. Felisi Ropati**  
HHC, 3rd BCT,  
25th ID



# Mulbury reflects on customer service, challenges

VICKEY MOUZÉ  
Managing Editor

WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD — When the outgoing garrison commander here relinquishes command to his successor, July 17, he will have spent countless hours ensuring the garrison remains focused on its customers, despite budget decrements.

Customer service has been Col. Douglas Mulbury’s top priority during his two-year tenure.

Speaking as a Soldier and not as the garrison commander, he said the garrison’s customers — Soldiers, family members, retirees, Army civilians and folks from other services — appreciate the garrison’s support, which includes providing safe barracks and housing for Soldiers and their families and child care at child development centers.

“My first priority was and remains instilling in everyone in the garrison the importance of customer service and recognizing and reinforcing good customer service,” Mulbury said. “That’s become especially important as we have decreased our personnel manning within the garrison significantly, as well as some of the financial decrements we’ve experienced with budget reductions. It’s still important that our customers receive the best we can provide in terms of customer service.”

Mulbury said one of his goals was to provide

the best support to the 18 commands that use garrison resources and to communicate with them in a proactive manner.

“When faced with challenges, such as the budget decrements, we don’t make decisions in a vacuum,” he said. “We explain the challenges to our supported commands, and we give them recommendations. We get their feedback, and we try to work in close cooperation with them.”

Providing support to those commands is the garrison’s civilian workforce, a workforce that Mulbury calls “dedicated.” He said it’s important to recognize and appreciate what they do each and every day and to ensure they are properly trained.

Mulbury said he wants employees to remember why they come to work.

“The garrison’s mission is to ensure that our Soldiers can be ready to go to war and that Soldiers and families have a quality of life that they deserve commensurate with their service,” he said.

Mulbury said that the USAG-HI garrison commander is “the face of the Army in Hawaii.” Inside



Mulbury

the gates, for example, he discusses security and housing issues with community members, he conducts employee town hall meetings, and he hosts Facebook town halls. Outside the gates, he meets with Native Hawaiian groups to discuss sensitive cultural and natural resources issues.

A garrison commander’s duties — providing standardized, effective and efficient services, facilities and infrastructure to Soldiers, families and civilians for the Army and nation — can sound fairly cut-and-dried. That is, until the realization hits that the garrison commander oversees services for 90,000-plus customers on Oahu and the Big Island.

Just maintaining the infrastructure — such as the 2,287,998 square yards of surfaced roads, including those in training areas — across the garrison’s 22 installations and training areas can be staggering, especially when, all told, USAG-HI offers more than 100,000 acres of training area.

Ensuring the Army is a good steward of that land was another of Mulbury’s goals, as was honoring Native Hawaiian cultural and environmental issues.

The two — land and Native Hawaiian issues — often become intertwined.

The Native Hawaiian Covenant, signed by leaders of both communities, March 24, 2010, has helped initiate proactive dialogue about these and other issues.

“The Covenant was a huge step — it was two years in the making — but really what I’m focused on now is actionable, tangible things we have done to make the covenant a living, breathing document,” Mulbury said. “There’s a lot of things that we’ve done, and I feel very good where we are right now; it’ll be incredibly important in the future.”

## USAG-HI Change of Command

Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, USAG-HI, will relinquish command to Col. Daniel Whitney, 2 p.m., July 17, at Weyand Field, Schofield Barracks. Attire is duty uniform for military, aloha attire for civilians. Also, Command Sgt. Maj. Robert Williamson will relinquish responsibility to Command Sgt. Maj. Philip Brunwald. RSVP to natalie.a.bradshaw.civ@mail.mil or call 656-0615. Mulbury’s next assignment is chief of staff, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks.



Col. Glenn Grothe (second from left), chief of staff, 8th TSC, and Spc. Andrew Armstrong (second from right), protocol Soldier for 8th TSC, stand between two Korean Navy seamen as they salute the commemorative wreath that the 8th TSC laid on the Korean War memorial during the 62nd Korean War Commemoration at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific, June 25.

# The war, vets not forgotten

Story and Photo by  
SGT. GAELEN LOWERS  
8th Theater Sustainment Command  
Public Affairs

HONOLULU — The Korean War started with a sudden invasion.

Although a cease-fire armistice was signed three years later, the war never officially ended.

In the U.S., the Korean War is commonly referred to as “The Forgotten War,” but on June 25, with representatives of many Pacific countries and veterans who fought during the conflict present, the U.S. made sure, for the 62nd time, that the Korean War would never be forgotten.

The 62nd Korean War Commemoration was held at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific. The Honorable Young-Kil Suh, Consul General of the Republic of Korea, hosted the event.

More than 100 veterans and spouses of those who made the ultimate sacrifice were honored, and special guests were invited to place a wreath on the memorial as a commemoration to the start of the Korean War.

Also present were key military leaders, including representatives from U.S. Army-Pacific, 8th Theater Sustainment Command and the 25th Infantry Division, as well as top-ranking officials from the Navy, Coast Guard and Marines.

The keynote speaker for the day’s events was Lt. Gen. Duane Thiessen, commander, U.S. Marine Forces Pacific.

“The United Nations suffered 142,000 casualties, and the Korean people lost more than one million lives,” Thiessen said. “We come here today to remember the three-year strug-

gle across the Korean peninsula, to remind ourselves that freedom is not free, and to pay tribute to those who sacrificed so much.”

Hawaii Lt. Gov. Brian Schatz said there was no other country in the world that had a better relationship to the U.S. than South Korea, and that the U.S. government was proud to commemorate the day that so many Koreans and Americans lost their lives fighting for freedom and what they believed in.

Col. Glenn Grothe, chief of staff, 8th TSC, represented the unit during the commemorative wreath laying.

“The wreath was in honor of the veterans who fought so bravely and also to those who gave their lives, making the ultimate sacrifice,” Grothe said. “It’s important to recognize those who have come before us. We did that today, and it was an honor and privilege to do so.”

“The honor and the respect the country of Korea has shown me makes this commemoration even more important,” said James Ward, retired sergeant, Marine Corps, and veteran of the Korean War.

Ward told a story about a visit he made to Korea. He went to a museum, and a bus of school children happened to be there at the same time. When the children saw him, without provocation, they ran up, hugged him and thanked him for his service to the military and their country.

“That was worth every minute I spent in that war,” he said. “I’m very proud of the military, what they have done for me and, more importantly, what they have done for others. They made me a better person, because I follow their example and am not afraid to put myself forward to help others.”

# Army health clinic welcomes new commander to Schofield

STEPHANIE BRYANT

Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Col. Joseph Bird relinquished command of U.S. Army Health Clinic-Schofield Barracks to Col. Mary Krueger during a change of command ceremony held at Soldiers’ Pavilion, here, June 26.

The health clinic is one of the largest free-standing ambulatory care facilities in the Department of Defense, and Krueger is ready for the opportunity to lead the more-than-650 military and civilian personnel who provide care to Schofield’s Soldiers and their families.

Bird said he is comforted knowing that he is leaving the health clinic in good hands and proud that he had the opportunity to command the clinic.

“It’s been the highest honor and privilege of my military career to lead this team of committed professionals in taking care of our nation’s warriors, their families and our veterans, all who have sacrificed so much and who so richly deserve the best medical care our nation can provide,” Bird said. “It’s hard to leave such a great team and such a beautiful clinic, but easier knowing how fortunate we were to be here in the first place. I am so very proud to be counted among your ranks.”

As Bird heads to his new assignment at Fort Gordon, Ga., Krueger, whose most recent assignment was division surgeon for the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colo., is stepping up.

“I was humbled and grateful when I first heard that I would have the opportunity to serve here at the Schofield Barracks health



Bird



Krueger

clinic,” Krueger said. “This sentiment has only grown over time, as I have come to experience firsthand what a great organization this is.

“Ironically, my first rotation as a medical student, 17 years ago, was just up the road at Tripler (Army Medical Center), so it is even more special to me to be returning here this time with my two sons to share the experience,” she added.

Krueger brings extensive leadership and health professional experiences with her to Schofield.

“Learning what I have of the (clinic’s) culture in the last week, I believe that it is a very good fit with my personal philosophy of medical leadership: Take care of patients, take care of each other and do the right thing,” she said.

Krueger will use her experience to guide USAHC-SB as it expands its capacity to include the addition of an Integrated Pain Management Clinic, Pediatric and Family Medicine Medical Homes, a Medical Management Center, and spirometry (a pulmonary function test) testing at the Occupational Medicine Clinic.

# Units announce leadership changes

The Army Hawaii community is invited to attend upcoming changes of command ceremonies.

The change of command ceremony is a time-honored tradition that formally symbolizes the continuity of authority when a command is passed from one commander to another.

The ceremonies, below, will take place at Weyand Field, Schofield Barracks, unless otherwise noted.

Times listed are start times for the change of command or responsibility. Awards ceremonies usually precede the change of command.

•July 10, 10 a.m., U.S.

Army Garrison-Pohakuloa; Lt. Col. Rolland Niles will relinquish command to Lt. Col. Eric

Shwedo. This ceremony will take place at Pohakuloa.

•July 11, 1 p.m., 94th Army Air and Missile Defense Command, Fort Shafter; Brig. Gen. James Dickinson will relinquish command to Brig. Gen. Daniel Karbler. This ceremony will take place at Palm Circle, Fort Shafter.

•July 18, 10 a.m., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District; Lt. Col. Douglas Gut-tormsen will relinquish command to Navy Lt. Cmdr. Thomas Asbery. This ceremony will take place at Palm Circle, Fort Shafter.

(Editor’s Note: Information listed is subject to change due to inclement weather. Contact the unit for more details.)





Pfc. Lorenzo Holmes (front left) and Sgt. Christopher Weiss (front right), both Sappers with the 4th Plt., 95th Eng. Co. (Clearance), 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, tie into a ring main during a “confidence blast” while deployed to Afghanistan’s Helmand Province, June 17.

# Sappers have a ‘blast’

Story and Photo by  
**1ST LT. KYLE SUCHOMSKI**  
95th Engineer Company (Clearance),  
65th Eng. Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade,  
8th Theater Sustainment Command

HELMAND PROVINCE, Afghanistan — Working with explosives is simply another day on the job in Afghanistan for Soldiers of the 95th Engineer Company (Clearance), 65th Eng. Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command.

“As route clearance Sappers, our Soldiers are well-accustomed to explosions, controlled or otherwise,” said 1st Lt. Wade Robertson, platoon leader, 95th Eng. Co., 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde.

“Demolitions are our primary means of safely neutralizing (improvised explosive devices, or) IEDs, so it’s important that every Soldier maintains a high level of familiarity with all of the assets in our inventory,” Robertson said.

Explosives are an important part of a combat engineer’s arsenal. Whether conducting route clearance or breaching an obstacle, Sappers must be confident with many types of demolitions.

And although the charges in an IED usually consist of homemade materials, they are no less of a threat. By understanding how explosive systems function, the unit can work more safely to eliminate IEDs.

“Working with explosives is one of those things that is not only good to know, but is also really cool to do,” said Spc. Roy Adams, 95th Eng. Co., 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde.,

during one of the company’s recent demolitions ranges.

“There’s nothing like feeling that blast pressure in your chest,” Adams said.

Over the past several months, the unit has been working to sharpen its skills with an assortment of explosive charges, each designed for a specific task.

The Soldiers have learned to construct specialized charges that can be emplaced with the Talon robot to detonate an IED from a distance. They use detonation cord to create ribbon, donut and water-impulse charges, which can be hastily employed to cut through a wall or door.

“Demolitions ranges are a chance to blow something up. It’s a really good way for us to let off some steam between missions,” said Staff Sgt. Aumoana Sailo, sergeant, 4th Platoon, 95th Eng. Co., 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde.

Soldiers with the 95th Eng. Co. will continue to “have a blast” conducting route clearance missions until returning to Schofield Barracks later this summer, as Sappers rarely get the opportunity to experience the full potential of explosives, said Sgt. 1st Class Paul Tuimivave, operations noncommissioned officer in charge, 95th Eng. Co., 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde.

“Due to range restrictions on Schofield Barracks, our ability to run the scope of demolitions training we’d like (to conduct) is pretty limited,” he said. “There just aren’t many size or quantity restrictions on demolition out here.”

# 71st Chem. Co. gets certified

Story and Photo by  
**SPC. MARCUS FICHTL**  
8th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs,  
8th Theater Sustainment Command

WAIPAHU — Soldiers with the 71st Chemical Company, 8th Military Police Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, earned their certification as they responded to simulated chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear, or CBRN, threats across Oahu during a series of exercises held here, June 17-22.

The U.S. Army uses such certification exercises to confirm if a unit is ready to deploy overseas.

June 20, the unit responded to a simulated maritime CBRN threat. In the scenario, a ship couldn’t dock because of a chemical leak, and many of the crew on board needed to be extracted and taken to safety.

Sgt. 1st Class Daphne Thomas, dismounted recon and surveillance platoon sergeant, 71st Chem. Co., 8th MP Bde., described the situation as initially chaotic.

“You try to find a location where the Soldiers

are safe, but also not too far to accomplish their mission,” Thomas said. “Then you need to establish your roles.”

Augmented with members of the 93rd Civil Support Team, Hawaii National Guard, and a hazardous response unit from Joint Base Hickam-Pearl Harbor, the responders worked together to bring all of their equipment onto the ship and established a command post.

They also established a plan of action before successfully combating the heat, narrow pathways and stresses of a chemical maritime environment in order to identify the chemical leak and rescue crewmembers.

All this Soldiers must do while in the small confines of a ship.

But as unique as this mission may be, it is just a small piece of the CBRN puzzle, and just a representation of what the 71st Chem. Co. is capable of.

“We are ready to do any kind of consequence management,” Thomas said. “We are trained for any mission.”



Decontamination Soldiers with the 71st Chem. Co., 8th MP Bde., 8th TSC, decontaminate the oxygen tank of Staff Sgt. Cameron Tinker (left), chemical Soldier, 71st Chem. Co., during the unit’s certification exercise at the inactive shipyard in Waipahu, June 20.

## DEPLOYED FORCES

# 561st Eng. Co. assists Border Patrol

Story and Photo by  
**1ST LT. JOHN SPIES**  
561st Engineer Company, 84th Eng. Battalion,  
130th Eng. Brigade,  
8th Theater Sustainment Command

NOGALES, Ariz. — The Soldiers of 1st Platoon, 561st Engineer Company, 84th Eng. Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, returned to Oahu after completing the final phase of a 3,168-foot all-weather road construction project here, June 14.

The project represents large-scale cooperation between Joint Task Force-North, or JTF-North; the U. S. Forestry Service; and the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol.

The project also represents the fifth cooperation between the 561st Eng. Co. and JTF-North in support of the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol’s counter-drug and transnational threat operations to reduce the availability of illegal drugs in the U.S.

The scope of the 39-day mission included emplacement of more than 70 pieces of articulating matting hinged blocks in two low-water crossings, cutting ditches along the entire length of road, and emplacing rip-rap concrete spray in the ditches for drainage control.

The mission also provided an excellent opportunity for the Soldiers of 1st Platoon to achieve proficiency on a multitude of construction equipment. With every passing week, operators gained confidence and overall production increased.

“The project allowed me to operate pretty much every piece of construction equipment on site,” said Pfc. Jerren Data, equipment operator, 1st Plt., 561st Eng. Co., 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde.

However, the hilly terrain proved to be a steep challenge, as the 25-ton articulating hinged-bucket dump trucks, used to haul material, had

to traverse more than five miles of constant hills to reach the construction site.

“It took a few trips before I really felt comfortable operating the dump trucks,” said Spc. Robert Deatherage, equipment operator, 1st Plt., 561st Eng. Co., 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde. “Once I got the hang of it, my haul decreased with each pass.”


As a construction-effects battalion, the 1st Plt., 561st Eng. Co., 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., provided a wide range of capabilities, from undertaking various construction projects, to supporting humanitarian assistance, to combat operations overseas.

1st Plt. will continue heavy construction, both on and off island, in the future.

The 1st Plt., 561st Eng. Co., 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., will travel to the Big Island before the end of the fiscal year to complete projects at Pohakuloa.



Soldiers with 3rd Sqdn., 1st Plt., 561st Eng. Co., 84th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, place articulating matting in a low-water crossing along the U.S.-Mexico border in southern Arizona, June 14.



**What do I do?**

If a hurricane is underway, be ready to respond:

- Stay tuned to the radio, TV or social media sites for more information.
- Secure your home, bring in furniture and close storm shutters.
- Ensure you have enough water for household purposes.
- Turn refrigerator to coldest setting and keep the door closed.
- Never ignore an evacuation order. Follow evacuation guidelines, times and routes. Take your emergency kit with you.
- Stay away from windows and doors. Do not go outside until

instructed to do so “All Clear.”

- Report to your chain of command when you are in a safe place.
- Avoid high and fast-moving water.

**Be prepared for a hurricane**

For updates on this exercise or in the event of a real incident, take these actions:

- Turn to installation channel TV2;
- Visit [www.facebook.com/us-aghawaii](http://www.facebook.com/us-aghawaii);
- Follow [www.twitter.com/us-aghawaii](http://www.twitter.com/us-aghawaii);
- Use [www.ready.army.mil](http://www.ready.army.mil) to prepare for a hurricane, get a kit, make a plan and stay informed.



# Wolfhounds: 2nd BCT uses Bellows MOUT to prepare for urban warfare

CONTINUED FROM A-1

The Military Operations on Urban Terrain, or MOUT site at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, is an advanced training resource that the brigade can use for urban environment training. The facility boasts multiple cameras atop and inside every building to capture the action from every angle.

Audio speakers throughout the MOUT site play sounds to simulate barking dogs and children at play. Even smell simulation machines emit odors to complete the atmosphere.

Urban environment training is a priority, as the skills required remain pertinent to current conflicts.

“Anywhere we deploy to, there is going to be an element of urban warfare,” said Sgt. Ryan Bradley, squad leader, Co. B, 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT. “Coming down here to Bellows, using the town that they built, gets guys used to urban maneuver and what they can expect to see in marketplaces. To have this resource, we can get prepared and be effective destroying the enemy wherever we go.

“I deployed to Tikrit, Iraq, during the last deployment, and from the building structures outside to the floor plans inside, (the MOUT site) is very accurate,” Bradley added. “It’s all the little things that you don’t really think about that get you into it. It brings back some of the things I encountered when I deployed.”

The Wolfhounds began with team- and squad-level training at Schofield Barracks and Pohakuloa on the island of Hawaii earlier this year, and have moved into tactical maneuver with platoon-sized elements across STXs.

“This is the first opportunity that we’ve had to train as a platoon and show that all the operating procedures we established at the team and squad levels are now working together at the platoon level,” Orton said.

The training also helped integrate new Soldiers in the unit and mutually acquaint the Soldiers and their leadership.

“It builds cohesion and allows leaders to get to know their Soldiers a little better and allows the Soldiers to build trust in their leaders,” Bradley said.

“Working in garrison, there’s a lot of paperwork involved in what I do,” Orton added. “Coming out here, and making sure I’m just as tactically proficient with the feedback I receive from the role players and my squad, there’s nothing like it.”

Platoons across all companies in 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., will continue to train at the Bellows MOUT site into the first week of July, further preparing the battalion’s Soldiers and leaders for contingencies anywhere in the world with realistic urban training.



Soldiers from Co. B, 1st Bn., 27th Inf. Regt., 2nd BCT, 25th ID, stack on a wall before entering a compound in search of a high-value target during a situational training exercise held at Marine Corps Training Area Bellows, June 25.

# Broncos: 3rd BCT CoC

CONTINUED FROM A-1

toughest terrain ever assigned to the U.S. Army,” he said. “The Broncos took the fight to the insurgents while simultaneously working tirelessly to develop the capabilities and confidence of their Afghan partners and providing overwatch to more than 500 miles of shared border with Pakistan. No unit has ever been given a tougher or more complex mission, and the Broncos executed it magnificently.”

Kim offered parting words, but with focus on the “true heroes” of the Bronco Brigade.

“I could not have had the success I did without those of you standing on this field,” Kim said, addressing his former troops. “You are the driving force behind what this brigade has accomplished.”

Fuller also welcomed Eifler, whose previous assignment was as commander, Regimental Special Troops Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Fort Benning, Ga.

Eifler has deployed numerous times to Iraq and Afghanistan, in support of Hurricane Relief Operations after Hurricane Andrew, and in support of stability operations in Haiti.

“In Eifler, the brigade is getting another proven warrior,” Fuller said. “The Soldiers of the Bronco Brigade can be confident that they have an outstanding new commander, and I am certain of his ability to lead this brigade to an even higher standard of excellence.”



Eifler thanked his successor for the legacy left behind and rallied his new troops for its next three-year rotation.

“Thanks (Col. Kim) for building a great team and leading them to where they are today,” said Eifler in his first speech to his new unit. “To the Broncos, once again we must prepare to answer our nation’s call. But together, we will adapt and boldly continue the mission.”



Maj. Gen. Kurt Fuller (right), commander, 25th ID, hands the 3rd BCT’s colors to Col. Brian Eifler (left), incoming commander, 3rd BCT, during the Bronco Brigade’s change of command ceremony held on Weyand Field, June 28.

DEPLOYED FORCES



Chief Warrant Officer Naurice Morton, 151A aviation maintenance technician, Co. D, 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., 25th CAB, 25th ID, practices his brush strokes.

Second Lt. Cassie Graham, executive officer, HHC, 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., 25th CAB, 25th ID, practices her brush strokes and color-blending techniques.

# Art classes boost Soldiers morale

Story and Photos by  
**SGT. DANIEL SCHROEDER**  
25th Combat Aviation Brigade Public Affairs  
25th Infantry Division

FORWARD OPERATING BASE WOLVERINE, Afghanistan — Since February, Soldiers of 2nd Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, have been attending a painting class in the tech supply building here, on Sunday afternoons.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Roger Passie, aviation maintenance technician, Company D, 2nd Bn. 25th Avn. Regt., started the class when Task Force Diamond Head arrived.

“I had a little bit of free time one day, so I broke out my painting materials and started to work on my technique,” Passie said. “My co-workers showed an interest and curiosity in painting, so I started a class to teach them what I know. All my supplies were used up in the first class.”

To receive more supplies, Passie sent pictures of the Soldiers’ paintings to the Morale, Welfare and Recreation painting class

on Schofield Barracks. “We received more than \$1,500 in painting supplies,” Passie said.

“Some major painters and paint businesses sent supplies after they heard about what we have going on out here,” he said.

Passie teaches Soldiers about the importance of brush strokes, color mixing and analyzing shapes in the subject.

“This is a great class; I really like it,” said Spc. Marialynn Manibusan, automated logistics specialist, Co. D, 2nd Bn., 25th Avn. Regt. “It is very relaxing. It takes away from the daily stresses of being deployed.”

Four Soldiers have continued to take part in the class since its inception. Also, two contracted chefs from the FOB Wolverine Dining Facility have participated.

After observing the improvement two Soldiers showed throughout the class, Passie entered Spc. Desiree Jordan and Spc. Gheryme Reed in the novice category of the Army art competition.

“I would love for the Soldiers to get recognized from this competition,” Passie said. “I think this is a boost of morale here; they love what they are doing in this class.”



# Drown-proofing: 8th STB Soldiers overcome fears to learn basic survival skills

CONTINUED FROM A-1

For many, the swimming was less of a problem than the height of the diving platform. Roth admitted he had a “small thing” about heights, but said it was more of a rush than fear.

For others, though, that fear was far more real. “I like to swim, but am afraid of heights,” said

Maj. Mary Magsino, communications officer, 8th TSC. “Once I was on the top of the dive, I could feel the fear grip me. There was a point at the top when I thought I could turn back, but once you get to the edge, you just have to go.”

Whether the Soldiers were afraid of the water, of trying to swim with the extra weight, or of the

height of the dive, they all agreed it was nice to get out of the office for a good workout.

“It pushes you to your limits,” said Mangrum. “It pushes you past what you are comfortable doing. It pushes your swimming capabilities, and it gives you that confidence to complete the mission in any conditions, even adverse ones.”



Soldiers with HHC, 8th STB, 8th TSC, practice staying afloat while in full combat uniform during their unit’s annual drown-proofing training at Schofield Barracks’s Richardson Pool, held June 22 and 29.



Spc. Ar Lyn Medina-Rivera, plans specialist with the 8th STB, 8th TSC, jumps off the high-dive platform as part of her unit’s annual drown-proofing training.

## News Briefs

Send announcements for Soldiers and civilian employees to [community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com](mailto:community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com).

**Today**

**Garrison Survey** — The U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii is fielding a community-wide survey through July 31. The survey will gather customer feedback about the quality and importance of garrison services, including ID cards, Child and Youth Services, housing, physical fitness centers and retirement services.

The survey is open to all Soldiers, family members, retirees and civilians who use garrison services. It can be accessed at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/Community\\_Survey\\_2012](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Community_Survey_2012).

Responses are anonymous. Call Gayle Yanagida at 655-8391 for more

details.

**Road Closure** — Sections of Airdrome/Latchum roads will be fully closed, 24/7, during reconstruction. July 2-Aug. 17, subject to change, pending weather delays.

- Airdrome Road will be fully closed between Sasaoka Street and Denny Road from July 2-25.
- The one-way portion of Latchum Road, near Building 1006, will be closed from July 26-Aug. 6.
- Airdrome Road will be fully closed between both sides of Denny Road, Aug. 7-17.

**10 / Tuesday**

**Fire Alarm Upgrade** — The Federal Fire Department will upgrade the fire alarm radio receiver repeater at its location from 9 a.m.-noon, July 10. Buildings with fire alarm systems on Fort Shafter, Schofield Barracks, Aliamanu Military Reservation and Wheel-

er Army Airfield will be operational and will sound the local alarm in each building.

If there is a fire in any building during this time, call the Federal Fire Department at 474-2222.

**12 / Thursday**

**USAG-HI Employee Town Halls** — Col. Douglas Mulbury, commander, U. S. Army Garrison-Hawaii, will conduct two Garrison Employee Town Halls, 1:30-2:30 p.m., July 12, at the Schofield Barracks Main Post Chapel, and 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., July 13, at the Fort Shafter Brostrom Community Center.

The commander will address USAG-HI’s current manpower situation; ongoing personnel realignment efforts; Voluntary Early Retirement Authority, or VERA; Separation Incentive Pay, or VSIP; plans to conduct a Mock Reduction-in-Force and Installation Management Command’s Employee

Placement Program. Call Nevin Field at 656-5830.

**DOD Business Outreach** — Oahu contracting officials from the Department of Defense are hosting a Small Business Industry Day outreach event, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., July 12, at the Honolulu Country Club. Cost is \$50 per participant, and includes continental breakfast and luncheon buffet.

To register, visit [dodhisbforum.eventbrite.com](http://dodhisbforum.eventbrite.com). Same-day walk-in registration is available. Call Dr. Donna Peebles, 655-3049.

**19 / Thursday**

**Antiterrorism Exercise** — U. S. Army Garrison-Hawaii will be conducting its annual antiterrorism exercise on Fort Shafter Flats, July 19, and on Wheeler Army Airfield, July 20.

Key exercise objectives are to test law enforcement response to a suspected terrorist incident, to test alert

procedures/communications systems, to test mass casualty plans/procedures, and to ramp up access control gates to higher force protection conditions.

Motorists may encounter temporary delays at all gates entering Fort Shafter, Fort Shafter Flats and Wheeler Army Airfield during the exercise.

All residents can also expect to see and hear “Exercise-Exercise-Exercise” alerts and announcements from area mass notification/giant voice systems, from emails, and from websites during the exercise.

Call Donald Murray, USAG-HI antiterrorism officer, 656-0152.

**Ongoing**

**New PTO Location** — The Personnel Property Transportation office is now located in the Soldier Support Center, Building 750, Schofield Barracks. The Carlson Wagonlit Official Travel Office will remain at Building. Call 656-2391.



# Engineers support Catastrophe Response Exercise

**ANGELA KERSHNER**  
U.S. Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District Public Affairs

**FORT SHAFTER** — Several U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District, or USACE-HD, employees participated in the Combined Response Mission Exercise Evergreen Quake 2012, held in Tacoma, Wash., recently.

The training focused on emergency management deployments. The exercise simulated an emergency response to a significant earthquake in the Seattle area. The exercise involved local emergency managers, Washington state, Federal Emergency Management Agency Region 10, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

USACE participants included the 249th Engineer Battalion, USACE; Emergency Power Planning and Response Teams, or PRT, from Honolulu and Walla Walla, Wash., districts; and several subject-matter experts and evaluators.

Power PRTs work with the 249th Eng. Bn., contractors, and local and state entities to assess, install and maintain emergency generators at critical facilities throughout the affected area. These teams include specialists for contracting, liaisons, mission management, data management, logistics and quality assurance.

“The PRT is a group of volunteers who have completely different jobs during most of the year,” said Don Schlack, chemist, USACE-HD.

Schlack, who has deployed as a PRT member, served as an evaluator of the Walla Walla District PRT.

“When called up for an emergency, (PRTs) need to be able to use this training to solve issues that tend to come fast and hard,” Schlack said.

Evaluators provide the PRTs with scenarios and “injected” issues — problems and changes for them to handle. Injects range from detainment of contractors by law enforcement officials to a bridge collapse or a persistent reporter. These scenarios are drawn from actual experiences.

“It was really great being put in our role, in a real-life situation,” said Mike Wong, chief, Civil Works-Technical Branch, USACE-HD, and mission manager for one of the Honolulu District PRTs.

“In an exercise, you aren’t going to experience all of the possibilities, nor do you want to,” Wong said. “You have to be flexible in any situation in order to get the mission done.”

“The main purpose of Exercise Evergreen is to replicate the chaos, confusion and system failures, so PRT members are able to develop the extra skills necessary to cope with the situation they will be faced with in the field,” Schlack said.

Helene Takemoto, environmental protection specialist, USACE-HD, served as action officer for the exercise. Due to the amount of preparation done before the team departed Hawaii, the USACE-HD PRT was well prepared for every contingency presented to them.

“This team has done such an excellent job in supporting me as the action officer,” Takemoto said. “I think it’s a great team.”



**Photo Courtesy U.S. Corps of Engineers-Honolulu District Public Affairs**

USACE-HD Emergency Power Planning and Response Team members gather for a photo outside their Deployable Tactical Operations System vehicle during Combined Response Mission Exercise Evergreen Quake 2012, held in Tacoma, Wash., recently. Pictured, from left, are Darin Aihara, Sean Sackett, David Taira, Paul Kai, Helene Takemoto, Michael Wong, Jason Tanaka, Wendy Mow and Marsha Phillips



**Courtesy Photo Department of Land and Natural Resources Public Affairs**

The Kawainui Marsh Environmental Restoration Project will increase populations of endangered waterfowl such as the ae’o, or Hawaiian stilt, seen in the above photo, as well as create scenic open space, reduce upland runoff to coastal reefs and remove invasive weeds from the marsh.

## Corps, DLNR break ground on wetlands project

Army partners with community, state to restore Kawainui Marsh habitat

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS-DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**  
News Release

**KAILUA** — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Land and Natural Resources broke ground for the construction of the Kawainui Marsh Environmental Restoration Project, here, June 28.

USACE is responsible for the design and construction of the project. Once completed, the state will assume the responsibility to operate, maintain and repair the project.

DLNR has been working with the USACE and the Kailua community for more than 15 years to develop a habitat restoration project for the 830-acre Kawainui Marsh.

“We are looking forward to finally implementing this project with our partners, the Army Corps of Engineers and the community,” said William Aila Jr., chairperson, DLNR.

The project implements the wildlife habitat restoration components of the 1994 Kawainui Marsh Master Plan and Hawaii Endangered Waterbird Recovery Plans.

The project will help to restore habitat for four endangered native waterbirds on Oahu — the endangered koloa maoli, or Hawaiian duck; ae’o, or Hawaiian stilt; ‘alae ‘ula, or Hawaiian moorhen; and ‘alae ke’oke’o, or Hawaiian coot — as well as serve as the foundation for educational, environmental, cultural, recreational, community and volunteer efforts to restore the wildlife habitat in the marsh.

“Habitat restoration is expected to increase populations of endangered waterfowl, create scenic open space, reduce upland runoff to coastal reefs and remove invasive weeds from the marsh,” Aila said.

Without restoration, the marsh will remain in a state of degradation with little wildlife and community use values.

“Restoring the wetland in Kawainui Marsh is of vital importance,” said Paul Conry, administrator, Division of Forestry and Wildlife, DLNR. “Kawainui is one of the last large remaining wetland complexes in the state. Restoring its ecological functions to provide productive habitat for our endangered waterbirds will help to ensure we have these populations of endangered native birds in the future.”

The total project area of nearly 40 acres will include:

- 11 terraced shallow ponds.
- Earthen berm system accessible by light-duty maintenance vehicles.
- Water supply system to the ponds using solar-powered well pumps and water-level control structures.

The total project cost is projected at \$6,426,000, with the federal government providing 75 percent of the funding. DLNR’s cost share is projected to be \$1,355,000, representing about 25 percent of the total project cost.

The project is expected to be complete by Spring 2013.



Matthew Handel | Honolulu Veteran Center

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Patrick DeBusca, LCSW, couples and family therapist, Honolulu Veteran Center, mans the VA’s new Mobile Vet Center, or MVC, truck outside the Army Career and Alumni Program Center, here, recently. Launched earlier this year, the 30-foot mobile unit provides information regarding VA benefits as well as other support for service members and families. The MVC visits the center every Friday, 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

# VA launches ‘coaching’ service

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  
News Release

WASHINGTON — The Department of Veterans Affairs, or VA, recently completed a media campaign for its call center, “Coaching into Care.”

Coaching into Care is a telephone service that provides assistance to family members and friends trying to encourage veterans to seek health care for possible readjustment and mental health issues.

“Coaching into Care is a valuable service for family members and friends of veterans who might be reluctant to seek mental health care,” said Eric Shinseki, secretary, VA.

“In the last three years, VA has devoted more people, programs and resources toward mental health services to serve the growing number of veterans seeking mental health care, and this marketing effort is designed to expand our reach to those who need our services the most,” Shinseki said.

VA launched its media campaign in June as part of its observation of “PTSD Awareness Month,” for post-traumatic stress disorder.

Coaching into Care advertisements run on cable TV and radio stations in media markets throughout the U.S., though not yet in Hawaii. The ads feature three scenarios many veterans and their family members commonly experience following the veteran’s return from combat experiences. Veterans were directly involved in the media campaign.

Coaching into Care works directly with the Veterans Crisis Line and the Caregiver Support Line to provide guidance and referrals to callers, with no limit to the

number of calls they can make. Through the service, callers are coached on solving specific logistical problems and ways to encourage the veteran to connect with VA care in his or her community while respecting his or her right to make personal decisions.

The VA is a pioneer in mental health research, high-quality, evidence-based treatment and access to high-quality care. The department has many entry points to care through the use of 300 Vet Centers — including two on Oahu — the Veterans Crisis Line, and integration of mental health services in the primary care setting.

The Coaching into Care campaign is part of VA’s overall mental health program.

Since 2007, VA has seen a 35-percent increase in the number of veterans receiving mental health services, and a 41-percent increase in mental health staff.

Last year, VA provided quality, specialty mental health services to 1.3 million veterans.

**Coaching into Care**  
The no-limit “Coaching Into Care” telephone service is available toll-free at (888) 823-7458, 8 a.m.-8 p.m., eastern time, Monday-Friday. Veterans experiencing an acute crisis, should call the Veterans Crisis Line at (800) 273-8255 for immediate help.  
For more details, visit:

- [www.mirecc.va.gov/coaching](http://www.mirecc.va.gov/coaching)
- [www.facebook.com/VAPacificIslands](http://www.facebook.com/VAPacificIslands)

# New VA initiative aims to improve hiring of mental health professionals

VA PACIFIC ISLANDS HEALTH CARE SYSTEM  
Department of Veterans Affairs

HONOLULU — The Department of Veterans Affairs, or VA, has developed an aggressive national mental health hiring initiative to improve recruitment and hiring, marketing, education and training programs, and retention efforts for mental health professionals.

To expedite the national hiring process, VA developed the Mental Health Hiring Initiative, a multifaceted, sustained national marketing and outreach campaign that includes targeted recruitment of mental health providers willing to take positions throughout the country, including in rural and highly rural markets, to serve all VA medical centers and community clinics.

The initiative will help VA meet existing and future demands of mental health care services in an integrated collaborative team environment and continue to position VA as an exemplary workplace for mental health care professionals while considering short- and long-term planning and needs of veterans.

“As the tide of war recedes, we have the opportunity and the responsibility to anticipate the needs of returning veterans,” said Eric Shinseki, VA secretary.

Although a national shortage of

**On the Web**  
To locate the nearest VA facility or veterans center for enrollment and to get scheduled for care, visit:

- [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

Perspective employees should review job announcements at the USA Jobs website:

- [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov)

Veterans can get immediate help by calling the Crisis Line at (800) 273-8255, push 1; by texting 838255; or by visiting:

- [www.VeteransCrisisLine.net](http://www.VeteransCrisisLine.net)

<b>Health Care Statistics</b> The local VA Pacific Islands Health Care System currently has 37.5 core mental health program vacancies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Psychiatrists, 2</li><li>•Clinical nurse specialists/nurse practioner, 7</li><li>•Psychologists, 8</li><li>•Social workers, 11</li><li>•RNs/LPNs, 6.5</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Peer counselor, 1</li><li>•Occupational Therapist, 1</li><li>•Psychiatric nursing assistant, 1</li></ul> Difficult-to-recruit locations/positions include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>•Guam, for clinical nursespecialist, social worker</li><li>•American Samoa, for clinica nurse specialist, social worker,psychiatrist</li><li>•Hilo, for clinical nurse specialist</li></ul>
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A working dog strikes a decoy during the Hardest Hitting Dog contest as part of the 2012 Hawaiian Islands Working Dog Competition at Pearl City High School June 21. Seventeen teams from across the globe participated in the 2012 Hawaiian Islands Working Dog Competition hosted by the 728th MP Bn., 8th MP Bde., 8th TSC, June 18-22.

# Competition challenges, demonstrates abilities of working dogs

Story and Photos by  
**SPC. MARCUS FICHTL**

8th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs,  
8th Theater Sustainment Command

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Man and his best friend shed sweat, blood and fur as 17 working dog teams from the Korean Peninsula to Fort Eustis, Va., competed in the 2012 Hawaiian Islands Working Dog Competition hosted by the 728th Military Police Battalion, 8th MP Bde., 8th TSC, here, June 18-22.

After missing out on 2011’s competition, the kennels on Marine Corps Base Hawaii made a strong showing. The Corps won nearly half the awards, headlined by Marine Cpl. Travis Cleveland and his German Shepherd Luky, nicknamed Lucifer, who won Top Dog.

Part devil, part dog, Cleveland and Luky used their Marine and their own personal brand of aggression to kick down doors and take the course by storm.

“We just don’t want to give up,” said Cleveland. “It’s a never-die situation. We harness each others’ abilities and accomplish everything we can.”

Bragging rights aside, the weeklong event represented more than just pure competition.

According to Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Reese, 728th MP Bn. kennel master and event coordinator, the Hawaii Islands Working Dog competition is much more than that.

“The most important thing we want to get out of this competition is esprit de corps, sharing knowledge, and sharing with the Hawaii community that we are here and showing them what we can do,” said Reese.

A series of events tested possibilities a dog handler might encounter on any mission.

The teams navigated events from live fires, tactical explosive

and narcotics detection, to obedience and aggression courses. The competition culminated with a grueling obstacle course.

“You always have to be on your toes; you always have to be looking for the next thing,” said Cleveland. “You have to be aware of your surroundings ... how you are going to encounter any situation at any given time.”

The process military working dog handlers use to overcome obstacles builds unity and knowledge among the participants, Marine or Soldier, Cleveland added.

One brand new dog handler with the 13th MP Detachment, 728th MP Bn., Staff Sgt. Andrea Abalos, defined that spirit.

Her dog Bennie, a veteran of the competition, at first stumbled during the obstacle course, but then stood up.

Literally.

“My dog needs to go on a diet,” said Abalos, jokingly, who carried the massive Bennie like a big, hairy rucksack up the hills of the obstacle course. “I want to be competitive; there’s a lot of good dog competitors here, and I want to put forth my best effort.”

“I did it; they saw me do it,” she said.

As the military working dog teams return to their

kennels across the globe, they’ll continue to protect the community, protect the Soldier and support the force.

But this week, however, was for the dogs.

The devil dogs.



Staff Sgt. Andrea Abalos, 13th MP Det., 728th MP Bn., 8th MP Bde., 8th TSC, carries her working dog Bennie during the Endurance Course competition.



Lance Cpl. Derek Patrick, Marine Corp Base-Hawaii, and his working dog Ronni peek through a fence during a human detection scenario.



Lance Cpl. Derek Patrick, MCBH, with working dog Ronni searches for narcotics during the tactical narcotics detection scenario.



Staff Sgt. Andrea Abalos, 13th MP Det., 728th MP Bn., 8th MP Bde., 8th TSC, and her working dog Bennie search for narcotics during the tactical narcotics detection scenario.





Briefs

Today

**Wheeler Bowling Center** — Cosmic Bowling special features three games and one shoe rental for \$5, 5-10 p.m. Call 656-1745.

**Friday Night Entertainment Series** — New acts each and every week at SB Kolekole Bar and Grill. Pau hana specials before the show. Call 655-4466.

- First Friday, Comedy Night (mature audiences only).
- Second Friday, live bands.
- Third Friday, Colby Benson band.
- Fourth Friday, Taking Care of Business band.

7 / Saturday

**Ladies Golf Clinic** — Every first Saturday of the month Leilehua Golf Course holds a free ladies golf clinic, 1:30-3 p.m., call 655-4653.

**Kolekole Saturday Nights** — The Saturday Night Spotlight features a variety of entertainment at SB.

- First Saturday, Old School Soul Night with DJ Bennie James.
- Second Saturday, Country Night.
- Third Saturday, Hip-Hop/Rhythm and Blues Night.
- Fourth Saturday, Karaoke Night.

8 / Sunday

**Sunday at the Clubs** — Enjoy Sunday breakfast at SB Kolekole Bar and Grill from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. or Sunday brunch at the Hale Ikena, FS, dining room, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 655-4466 (SB) or 438-1974 (FS).

9 / Monday

**Free Hula Classes** — The Native Hawaiian Liaison Office, USAG- HI, conducts free hula classes for Soldiers and families. Beginner classes are 5-6 p.m.; advanced classes are 6-7 p.m. Call 655-9694 or email nhliaison@gmail.com.

Class dates follow:

- Mondays, SB Kalakaua Community Center.
- Tuesdays, AMR Community Center.

**Mongolian Barbecue** — Served starting at 5 p.m., Mondays, at the SB Kolekole Bar and Grill, and Thursdays at FS Mulligan's Bar and Grill.

Cost is 65 cents per ounce. Dinner starts at 5 p.m. Call Kolekole at 655-4466 or Mulligan's at 438-1974.

10 / Tuesday

**BOSS Blood Drive** — Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers blood drive runs 10 a.m.-1 p.m., at the SB Tropics Warrior Zone. Call 655-1130.

community Calendar

Send announcements a week prior to publication to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

Today

**Garrison Survey** — USAG-HI will conduct a community-wide survey through July 31. The survey will gather customer feedback about the quality and importance of garrison services, including ID cards, Child and Youth Services, housing, physical fitness centers and retirement services.

The survey is open to all Soldiers, family members, retirees and civilians who use garrison services. It can be accessed at [https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Community\\_Survey\\_2012](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Community_Survey_2012).

Responses are anonymous. POC is Gayle Yanagida at 655-8391.

**Temporary Schofield VCC** — Due to upcoming construction on Lyman Gate, the SB Visitor Control Center has relocated to Kawamura Gate, WAAF.

SIMULATED FIREFIGHTER



Adam Chaddick (right), fire inspector, Federal Fire Department, instructs 1st Lt. Elizabeth Nelson (left), registered nurse, Antepartum Obstetrics/Gynecology ward, Tripler Army Medical Center, on the proper way to use a fire extinguisher at Army Public Health Nursing's health fair, recently, at the Kalakaua Community Center, here.

Health fair strives to educate

Story and Photo by  
**STEPHANIE RUSH**

Pacific Regional Medical Command Public Affairs

**SCHOFIELD BARRACKS** — In an effort to educate Soldiers and their families on the importance of staying healthy, Army Public Health Nursing held a health fair at the Kalakaua Community Center, recently, here.

"It's important to have educational health fairs because people want to be healthy; they just may be unsure where to start," explained Rosalind Griffin, a registered nurse with Army Public Health Nursing-Schofield Barracks, and the health fair's coordinator. "By bringing the information to the people, in a comfortable setting, they are more receptive to what you have to say and the impact that information has on their life."

APHN nurses were on hand to teach the nearly 100 attendees about heart disease and the role that blood pressure plays in it, as well as the importance of healthy living.

"It really is a pleasure to be able to go out into the community and impact the lives of all of our beneficiaries, to help them live better, longer and more fulfilled lives," Rosalind said. "Our mission is to decrease the burden of disease, and having health fairs and getting information to the people that need it helps ensure the success of that mission."

Other community organizations joined APHN to educate the public on health concerns and healthy living.

The Federal Fire Department had emergency responders on hand to provide tours of an ambulance and fire truck, and to demonstrate how to properly use a fire extinguisher.

Island Palm Communities, the Army's on-post housing partner in Hawaii, talked to attendees about the importance of sun safety. Staff handed out sunglasses with built-in UV protection.

Naval Health Clinic Hawaii's health promotion mobile, its "Wellness on Wheels" van, was on site to provide information on healthy lifestyles, tobacco cessation and metabolic testing.

U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii's Army Substance Abuse Program used trivia games and its "Wheel of Misfortune" to educate attendees on the dangers of substance abuse and to explain how a self-referral program works.

Ulanda Diaz, who lives on post, found out about the health fair because IPC mentioned the event on its Facebook page. Events held at community centers give her family activities to do, close to home, while her husband is deployed, but she had an ulterior motive for making sure her children attended the health fair. "My daughter wants to be a vet, but I'm trying to sway her to be a nurse, instead," said Ulanda, who is a licensed practical nurse herself. "The fair was a great way to show her other areas of the health field."

APHN plans to continue hosting a large-scale health fair each year, with the next one combined with a Family Fun Fitness Festival, sponsored by the Defense Commissary Agency.

"The one thing that I hope people take away from the health fair is the fact that knowledge is power and that they alone hold the key to their wellness," Rosalind said. "I can provide the information, but it is important that they use it to their advantage."

Healthy Living

Find more health maintenance information at Army Public Health online at:

- [www.facebook.com/APHNHawaii](http://www.facebook.com/APHNHawaii)
- [www.flickr.com/TriplerAMC](http://www.flickr.com/TriplerAMC)

**Financial Readiness** — A financial counselor will be available at the FS ACS office, Aloha Center, Room 111, every Tuesday until further notice. For appointments call 438-9285.

**ACS Survivor Support** — Meeting is for all survivors including battle buddies, 5-8:30 p.m., SOS Center, FS Aloha Center, Building 330, Room 104. Call 438-9285. Pizza and refresh-

ments are provided.

**Summer Reading Program** — Register now for this free Army library program open to all ages: keiki 3-5, 6-11, 12-18 and adults. Registration is underway. Call the FS Library at 438-9521 or SB Sgt. Yano Library at 655-8002.

Each week features a special entertainer; July 10-11 is Bungie the Clown.

11 / Wednesday

**Keiki Night** — Every Wednesday night, kids under the age of 10 eat from the keiki menu for only \$1.99 from 5-8 p.m. at SB Kolekole Bar and Grill and FS Mulligan's Bar and Grill. Call 655-0660 (SB) or 438-6712 (FS).

**Teen Wednesdays** — Bowl at Wheeler Bowling Center, 2-4 p.m.,

See FMWR Briefs, B-3

9 / Monday

**Slow Down Campaign** — Island Palm Communities and the Directorate of Emergency Services have launched a campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of speeding and the importance of driving safe in and around installation neighborhoods.

IPC, DES and Geico will be setting up "sign waving" sites: July 9 around Tripler and July 12 throughout Schofield. Everyone is welcome to join in. Visit [www.facebook.com/islandpalmcommunities](http://www.facebook.com/islandpalmcommunities).

10 / Tuesday

**Electronics Luncheon** — Attend the Armed Forces Communications Electronics Association luncheon, 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Hale Ikena, FS. Topics are information technology and career development opportunities in Hawaii. To register, visit [www.afcea-hawaii.org/program/default.htm](http://www.afcea-hawaii.org/program/default.htm). Call 395-0369

14 / Saturday

**Wahiawa Run** — The 5K Freedom Run, designed to promote a

drug-free Hawaii, begins at 7 a.m., July 14, Kaala Neighborhood Park, Wahiawa. Event includes a half-mile fun run for 5- to 10-year-old keiki. Visit <http://surfingthenations.com/freedomrun>.

15 / Sunday

**BayFest 2011** — Join the Marines and Sailors of Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay, for the largest music festival in Hawaii, July 15-17, at K-Bay. Performers include Cecilio and Kapono, Hoobastank, Puddle of Mudd, and Joe Nichols. Three-day event includes water-sports and contests, carnival rides, Midway and military displays. Visit [www.BayFestHawaii.com](http://www.BayFestHawaii.com) or call 254-7590.

**SOS Camp** — Survivor Outreach Services and Operation Military Kids are hosting a family camp July 15-17 at Camp Erdman on the North Shore for all youth who have lost a parent in the military.

This camp will give keiki the chance to meet other youth who have dealt with a loss. Spaces are limited. Call 438-1955/9285 or email [jennifer.ko-ranyi@us.army.mil](mailto:jennifer.ko-ranyi@us.army.mil).

worship Services

Additional religious services, children's programs, educational services and contact information can be found at [www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil](http://www.garrison.hawaii.army.mil). (Click on "Religious Support Office" under the "Directorates and Support Staff" menu.)

- AMR: Aliamanu Chapel
- FD: Fort DeRussy Chapel
- HMR: Helemano Chapel
- MPC: Main Post Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- PH: Aloha Jewish Chapel, Pearl Harbor
- SC: Soldiers' Chapel, Schofield Barracks
- TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center Chapel
- WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield Chapel

Buddhist Services

- First Sunday, 1 p.m. at FD
- Fourth Sunday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex

Catholic Mass

- Thursday, 9 a.m. at AMR
- Saturday, 5 p.m. at TAMC, WAAF
- Sunday services:
  - 8:30 a.m. at AMR
  - 10:30 a.m. at MPC Annex
  - 11 a.m. at TAMC
- Monday-Friday, 11:45 a.m. at MPC and 12 p.m.TAMC

Gospel Worship

- Sunday, noon. at MPC
- Sunday, 12:30 p.m. at AMR

Islamic Prayers and Study

- Friday, 1 p.m. at MPC Annex
- Friday, 2:30 p.m., TAMC
- Saturday and Sunday, 5:30 a.m.; 6, 7 and 8 p.m. at MPC Annex

Jewish Shabbat (Sabbath)

- Monday, 6 p.m. at PH (Bible Study)
- Friday, 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, 8:15 a.m. at PH

Pagan (Wicca)

- Friday, 7 p.m. at MPC Annex

Protestant Worship

- Sunday Services
  - 9 a.m. at FD, MPC and TAMC chapels
  - 9 a.m. at WAAF chapel, Lutheran/Episcopalian
  - 10 a.m. at HMR
  - 10:30 a.m. at AMR

Single Soldiers' Bible Study

- Wednesday, 11:30 a.m. at SC; lunch is provided.

Worship Service

- Sunday, 6 p.m. at SC.

This Week at the MOVIES Sgt. Smith Theater

Call 624-2585 for movie listings or go to [aafes.com](http://aafes.com) under reeltime movie listing.



Battleship

(PG-13)  
Fri., July 6, 4 p.m.

Men in Black 3

(PG-13)  
Fri., July 6, 7 p.m.  
Sun., July 8, 4 p.m.  
Wed., July 11, 7 p.m.

Dark Shadows

(PG-13)  
Sat., July 7, 4 p.m.

Avengers

(PG-13)  
Sat., July 7, 7 p.m.

The Chernobyl Diaries

(R)  
Thurs., July 5, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Calendar abbreviations

- 8th TSC: 8th Theater Sustainment Command
- 25th ID: 25th Infantry Division
- ACS: Army Community Service
- AFAP: Army Family Action Plan
- AFTB: Army Family Team Building

- AMR: Aliamanu Military Reservation
- BCT: Brigade Combat Team
- BSB: Brigade Support Battalion
- Co.: Company
- CYSS: Child, Youth and School Services
- EFMP: Exceptional Family Member Program

- FMWR: Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation
- FRG: family readiness group
- FS: Fort Shafter
- HMR: Helemano Military Reservation
- IPC: Island Palm Communities
- SB: Schofield Barracks

- SKIES: Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills
- TAMC: Tripler Army Medical Center
- USAG-HI: U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii
- USARPAC: U.S. Army-Pacific
- WAAF: Wheeler Army Airfield



# 65th Engineers serve as Gold Star ‘battle buddies’

Story and Photos by  
**2ND LT. LAUREN LOOPER,**  
65th Engineer Battalion, 130th Eng. Brigade,  
8th Theater Sustainment Command

FORT SHAFTER — A Summer Solstice Potluck sponsored by Survivor Outreach Services provided companionship for Gold Star children at the Aloha Center, here, June 26.

Soldiers from the 70th Engineer Company (Geospatial), 82nd Eng. Support Co. and 34th Eng. Co. (Sapper), 65th Eng. Battalion, 130th



Pfc. Mary Steward (right), 70th Eng. Co. (Geospatial), 65th Eng. Bn., 130th Eng. Bde., 8th TSC, helps her battle buddy, Aisseg Stagner, with his tulip pod sailboat.

Eng. Bde., 8th Theater Sustainment Command, supported the event at SOS.

Gold Star children are keiki who have lost a military parent, and SOS is the Army program that provides assistance to families of the fallen by providing long-term support through support meetings, phone calls and letters.

SOS’s goal is to provide continued contact with families of a fallen Soldier and prevent a disconnect with the military.

During the potluck, families and keiki connected quickly. Children participated with their Soldier battle buddies in nine different activities: making Ti leaf lei, completing a scavenger hunt, creating artistic drawings at a station, racing tulip seed pod boats, making paper cranes and para-cord bracelets, writing stories about their families, making tissue paper flowers and identifying local plants.

The potluck and activities gave everyone the chance to relax and share common experiences.

Families brought food to share, and children ran around between stations, laughing and enjoying the activities.

Pfc. Mary Steward, information management officer, 70th Eng. Co. (Geospatial), 65th Eng. Bn, 130th Eng. Bde, volunteered as a battle buddy.

“I think it’s a great thing they (SOS) are doing for the kids, because sometimes kids are forgotten in the process of things,” said Steward. “Things like today will help them see that people still care.”

“This (potluck) was an opportunity to bring survivors together for the specific purpose of introducing new survivors to older survivors,” said Elisabeth Olsen, family support officer, SOS, and organizer of the event. “I think it’s very important for children to feel like they still belong to the military.”

When a Soldier dies, Olsen explained, the unit loses a team member.

For the military child, however, the loss is permanently felt. It means mom or dad will never come home again.

For the military spouse, the husband or wife will never return to hold him or her.

For mothers like Olsen, whose son Toby died in an improvised explosive device, or IED, explosion in Iraq, in 2007, they will never see their sons or daughters grow old.

“As a survivor and a Gold Star Mother, I wear this pin,” Olsen said, pointing to a gold star on her shirt. “May you never, ever have to wear this pin.”

*(Editor’s Note: Looper is the unit public affairs representative for the 65th Eng. Bn.)*



Spc. Sara Korb (right), 70th Eng. Co. (Geospatial), 65th Eng. Bn, 130th Eng. Bde, 8th TSC, helps her battle buddy trace at boat during the Survivor Outreach Services’ Summer Solstice Potluck.

Briefs

CONTINUED FROM B-2

Wednesdays, WAAF. Teens can cosmic bowl for \$2. Free shoes with a two-game minimum. Call 656-1745.

**12 / Thursday**  
**Zumba** — The FS Physical Fitness Center offers Zumba classes, 4:45-5:45 p.m., Thursdays. Cost is \$4 per person. Call 438-1152.

**13 / Friday**  
**ACS SOS Friday** — Scrapbook and craft memories with a friend, 9 a.m.-noon, for survivors and family members of fallen Soldiers. Meet at the SOS Center at FS Aloha Center. Call 438-9285.

**19 / Thursday**  
**EFMP** — The SHARE Support Group meets 10 a.m.-noon, SB ACS, Classroom 3. It

provides families with an opportunity to share experiences, gather new information and learn about community resources. Contact EFMP at 655-4227.

**10 Steps to a Federal Job** — Jobseekers recommended for this two-day seminar, 9-11 a.m., July 19-20, FS Aloha Center, Building 330. Learn key information to help you with your federal resume writing and the importance of networking and executive orders. Call 655-4227.

**A Taste of Mulligan’s** — The new menu expansion at FS Mulligan’s Bar and Grill begins at 5 p.m. Attendees receive a special FMWR gift. Call 438-1974.

**26 / Thursday**  
**U.S. Army Soldier Show** — Seating starts at 6 p.m., Thursday July 26, at Martinez Gym, Schofield Barracks and Friday, July 27 at AMR Gym. The 7 p.m. show is a family-friendly, high-energy, 90-minute live musical production by active duty Soldiers who will be performing this show at 40 venues across the globe. Admission is free.

## New certification paths announced for Hawaii school administrators

HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
News Release

HONOLULU — The Hawaii State Department of Education, or DOE, in collaboration with Chaminade University, has announced a new program aimed at creating an alternative pathway to certification for school administrators.

The Alternative Certification for School Administrator Program, funded by the state’s Race to the Top initiative, provides applicants with high leadership potential the chance to earn certification as a school administrator.

While employed by the DOE, candidates can gain experience as a vice principal during their residency period.

The new rules that allow this alternative path to certification were approved by the Hawaii State Board of Education, or BOE, in May, and signed by Hawaii Governor Neil Abercrombie, recently.

According to the Education Commission of the States, about 16 other states are offering alternative certifications for principals.

“This program is a new approach to addressing the potential shortage of school administrators, in the future,” said Douglas Murata, assistant superintendent for the DOE Office of Human Resources. “While we value our traditional process and pathway to administration, we need to find additional creative and alternate ways to fill our leadership positions as we move forward.”

The ideal candidate holds a master’s degree and has successfully served in a leadership, supervisory or managerial position for three or more years. The program is limited to 24 candidates, for the first two years — 12 candidates each year — and will cost about \$900,000.

In recent years, Army-impacted schools have seen many highly experienced administrators retire — most recently, Linda Yoshikami from Solomon Elementary at Schofield Barracks; Raymond Fujii from Makalapa Elementary in the Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam area; and Robert Stevens from Radford High School in the JBPHH area, as well as others. This program will ensure that a pool of qualified school administrators is available to choose from as more principals are expected to retire soon.

This alternative route to certification provides candidates with credentials to pursue certification and a career in school administration. It leads to an authentic job-embedded experience as a vice principal upon acceptance into the program.

Faculty from Chaminade University and School Turnaround provide educational leadership courses with a specific focus on managing change and leading school turnaround. Also, coaching by skilled mentors is provided throughout the first year to help candidates apply the learned concepts and skills.

*(Editor’s Note: The School Liaison Office, Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii contributed to this article.)*

**Alternative Certification**  
For more details about the School Administrator Program, visit:  
• [www.chaminade.edu/ACSAP](http://www.chaminade.edu/ACSAP)



FOURTH OF JULY SPECTACULAR



Sgt. 1st Class David Wheeler | 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

SCHOFIELD BARRACKS — Keiki take off from the starting line of the Children’s 1-mile Run at the U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii’s Fourth of July Spectacular, held here, July 4. The run began at 9 a.m. and helped launch a full day of activities that culminated almost 12 hours later.



Sarah Pacheco | Honolulu Star-Advertiser

Ariana Diggs, 4, reaches the top of a rock wall climb during USAG-HI’s Fourth of July celebration, held on Weyand Field, Schofield Barracks.



Sarah Pacheco | Honolulu Star-Advertiser

The 25th Infantry Division Band provides lunchtime entertainment during the 41st annual Fourth of July Spectacular celebration at Schofield Barracks.



Sarah Pacheco | Honolulu Star-Advertiser

Revelers stand in line for a dragon bounce house attraction during USAG-HI’s Fourth of July celebration, held on Weyand Field, Schofield Barracks.



FOURTH OF JULY SPECTACULAR



**Spc. Marcus Fichtl** | 8th Military Police Brigade Public Affairs; 8th Theater Sustainment Command

Soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division conduct the Army’s daily retreat ceremony with the garrison flag, on Weyand Field, Schofield Barracks, during the garrison’s annual Fourth of July celebration.



**Sgt. Gaelen Lowers** | 8th Theater Sustainment Command Public Affairs

Andrew McMahon, lead singer, Jack’s Mannequin, receives "fun bands" from fans April Liwanag (center) and Nikki Otero (right), during a meet-and-greet with the band at Schofield Barracks’ Sgt. Yano Library prior to the headliner’s performance.



**Spc. Marcus Fichtl** | 8th MP Bde., Public Affairs, 8th TSC

A Soldier from the 8th Special Troops Battalion, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, watches fireworks explode overhead as rain gently falls. Thousands of people picnicked on the parade field to enjoy the culmination of the annual event and day’s activities.